10/23/87 A3275-2

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 15, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 10 totaled an estimated 19.3 billion ton-miles, 11.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 41 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 722.7 billion ton-miles carried, up 5.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended October 10 totaled 439,576, up 10.9 percent from the corresponding week of last year but 2.2 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 8.3 percent in the East and up 14.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 17 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Coal increased by 13,893 cars (12.8 percent), while metallic ores showed a gain of 3,867 cars (21.8 percent). Loadings of metals and products were up 2,293 cars (31.3 percent), and coke loadings rose 1,488 cars (39.5 percent). Fourteen of the 20 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 3 totaled 110,175 trailers and/or containers, 4.8 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of the year was 3,919,988 trailers and/or containers, up 3.2 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/10/87:

	Loadings in Week ended October 10, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	34,016	I	3,398	11.1	D	1,105	3.1
Other farm products	4,837	I	173	3.7	I	890	22.5
Metallic ores	21,645	I	3,867	21.8	D	681	3.1
Coal	122,081	I	13,893	12.8	D	2,387	1.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,797	I	3,044	20.6	D	377	2.1
Nonmetallic minerals	9,794	I	1,119	12.9	D	379	3.7
Grain mill products	11,636	I	226	2.0	I	176	1.5
Food and kindred products	11,537	I	223	2.0	D	499	4.1
Primary forest products	10,813	I	361	3.5	D	509	4.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,764	I	228	3.0	D	688	8.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,226	D	242	1.9	D	1,045	7.9
Chemicals and allied products	26,067	I	2,397	10.1	D	1,443	5.2
Petroleum products	4,656	D	216	4.4	I	252	5.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,783	I	1,321	12.6	I	7	0.1
Coke	5,254	I	1,488	39.5	D	131	2.4
Metals and products	9,617	I	2,293	31.3	D	1,145	10.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,963	I	1,217	6.2	I	217	1.0
Waste and scrap materials	9,751	I	1,973	25.4	I	58	0.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,048	D	238	7.2	D	292	8.7
All other carloads	84,291	I	6,770	8.7	D	854	1.0
Total Cars Loaded	439,576	I	43,295	10.9	D	9,935	2.2
Corresponding week of 1986	396,281						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (41 weeks)	16,278,046	15,589,803	I 4.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
40 Weeks ended October 3	703.4	670.6	I 4.9
Week ended October 10	19.3	17.3	I 11.7
41 Weeks cumulative	722.7	687.9	I 5.1

#

AARt - 101587